

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 37 and 41.

Please amend claims 35, 38, 39, 40 and 42, and add new claim 50 as follows:

35. (Amended) A method for identifying a compound that modulates production of a Th2-associated cytokine in a cell, comprising

providing an indicator composition comprising (i) a maf family protein comprising an amino terminal transactivation domain and a carboxy terminal basic leucine zipper region; and (ii) a target DNA comprising a regulatory sequence of a Th2-associated cytokine gene to which said maf family protein binds, wherein said indicator composition is an indicator cell or an acellular preparation;

contacting the indicator composition with each member of a library of test compounds;

selecting from the library of test compounds a compound of interest that modulates binding of said maf family protein to said target DNA; and

determining the effect of the compound of interest on the production of a Th2-associated cytokine in a cell to thereby identify a compound that modulates production of the Th2 cytokine.

38. (Amended) The method of claim 35, wherein the Th2-associated cytokine gene is an interleukin-4 gene.

39. (Amended) The method of claim 35, wherein the effect of the compound of interest on Th2-associated cytokine production is determined by determining the effect of the compound on development of T helper type 1 (Th1) or T helper type (Th2) cells.

40. (Amended) The method of claim 35, wherein the maf family protein is selected from the group consisting of v-maf, Nrl and p18.

42. (Amended) The method of claim 35, wherein the target DNA comprises the regulatory sequence of an interleukin-4 gene.

50. (New) The method of claim 44, wherein lymphoid cell is a helper precursor (Thp) cell.